

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

SEP 24 2001 as many sheets as necessary

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/780,379
Filing Date	February 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hans-Jurgen LIENESCH et al.
Group Art Unit	1772
Examiner Name	Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number

741124-76

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
~		4,101,137		Travis	07-18-1978	
~		4,367,650		Hilgner et al.	01-11-1983	
J		4,399,705		Weiger et al.	08-23-1983	
~		4,823,602		Christensen, Jr.	04-25-1989	
~		4,858,470		Kincaid et al.	08-22-1989	
~		4,905,518		Kubler	03-06-1990	
~		4,940,633		Hermansen et al.	07-10-1990	
~		5,723,787		Stoddard et al.	03-03-1998	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ² (if known)				
~		589,260		Great Britain	June 16, 1947		
~		JP 88145509		Japan	June 13, 1998		
~		EP0321600B1		EPO	Dec. 22, 1997		
~		EP0368728B1		EPO	March 11, 1989		
~		WO 96/36855		WIPO	Nov. 21, 1996		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	D. my	Date Considered	5/21/03
--------------------	-------	-----------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.